

APPROVED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

February 15, 2019
304 North 8th Street, Room 242
Boise, ID 83702

The special meeting was called to order by Chairman Reed at 11:30 AM. The following Commissioners were in attendance by phone:

Brian Scigliano
Julie Van Orden
Wanda Quinn
Nils Peterson
Kitty Kunz

Alan Reed attended in person. Commissioner Bair was absent.

TAB A: COMMISSION WORK

1. Agenda Review/Approval

M/S (Quinn/Peterson): To approve the agenda as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

TAB B: CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

1. Compass Public Charter School

Tamara Baysinger, PCSC Director, briefly reviewed the proposed charter amendments for Compass Public Charter School.

M/S (Quinn/Scigliano): To approve the proposed charter amendments, including a school expansion request and changes to graduation requirements, as submitted by Compass Public Charter School. *The motion passed unanimously.*

TAB C: OTHER

1. Legislative Consideration

Chairman Reed reviewed H91, which would create the opportunity for exemption from impact fees for charter schools.

M/S (Peterson/Van Orden): To support H91. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Chairman Reed reviewed S1057, which seeks to eliminate duplicate reporting of academic achievement data in district and public charter school continuous improvement plans (CIPs).

Director Baysinger explained that charter schools were hoping to be exempt from the continuous improvement plan altogether because they have performance certificates holding them accountable to outcomes. However, the SDE chose not to proceed accordingly because performance certificates typically do not contain all the required elements of CIPs.

M/S (Quinn/Kunz): To support S1057. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Chairman Reed reviewed S1058, which would create a charter school administrator certificate with different requirements than those needed to obtain typical administrator certification.

Director Baysinger noted staff's concern that charter administrators tend to need more training than traditional public school administrators, rather than less, because their roles include many duties typical of that of a superintendent. History has shown that hiring an administrator without the necessary skills can do severe damage to a school and its students long before the school's board, let alone an authorizer, can meaningfully correct the situation.

M/S (Quinn/Peterson): To oppose S1058.

Commissioner Kunz noted that otherwise qualified individuals may wish to come from other states for administrative jobs, but currently need to go through Idaho's certification process in order to do so.

Commissioner Van Orden said she would prefer the PCSC to take positions on legislation only when the decisions to do so are unanimous.

Commissioners Quinn and Scigliano stated that they feel is important for the legislature to understand that both the State Board and the Commission are opposed to the bill.

Substitute M/S (Van Orden/Kunz): To not take a position on S1058. *The substitute motion failed 2-3.*

The PCSC voted on the original motion to oppose S1058. *The motion passed 3-2, with Commissioners Van Orden and Kunz dissenting.*

Chairman Reed reviewed S1102, which seeks to increase facility funding for public charter schools.

Commissioner Peterson stated that he feels since this legislation is good for charter schools that the commission should support this legislation.

Commissioner Quinn expressed concerns on where the funding will come from.

Commissioner Van Orden explained that the funding would have to be located if this legislation were to pass.

Director Baysinger stated that the money for the facility's funds comes from monies appropriated to the educational support program

M/S (Peterson/Kunz): To support S1102. *The motion failed 2-3, with Commissioners Scigliano, Van Orden, and Quinn voting nay.*

The PCSC did not take a position on S1102.

Chairman Reed reviewed S1103, which would allow public charter schools that meet specific criteria to obtain more favorable bond financing for facility purchases and renovations.

M/S (Scigliano/Peterson): To support S1103. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Chairman Reed reviewed S1106, which would specify that all public schools, regardless of the instructional delivery method, are eligible to participate in, and be funded for, Career Technical Education (CTE) programs.

Director Baysinger expressed concern that the bill's broad language may have unintended consequences that staff has not had time to explore.

The PCSC did not take a position on S1106.

Chairman Reed reviewed S1107, which would lift the sunset provision on 2016 legislation that allowed public schools to receive partial funding for students who enroll in the middle of the school year. He noted that at an earlier hearing, he testified on his own behalf in favor of the bill.

M/S (Quinn/Van Orden): To support S1107. *The motion passed unanimously.*

M/S (Scigliano/Van Orden): To adjourn the meeting. *The motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.